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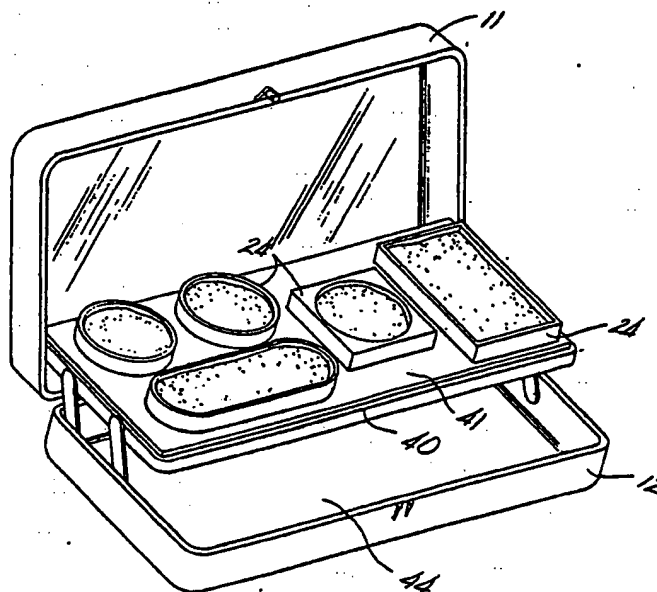
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(71)(72) Applicant and Inventor: STRNAD, Janet [US/US];
2004 Carnegie Lane #3, Redondo Beach, CA 90278
(US).(74) Agent: DILLARD, David, A.; Christie, Parker & Hale,
P.O. Box 7068, Pasadena, CA 91109-7068 (US).

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(54) Title: MAGNETIC COSMETIC CASE



(57) Abstract

A cosmetic case (9) comprising a casing (10) and at least one magnet (20) which is mounted in the casing for releasably securing magnetically attracted pans of colored powder, creams and the like within the casing. The casing preferably has two hingedly connected sections (11, 12) with at least one magnet mounted in each section. A partition, preferably comprising a non-magnifying mirror on one side and a magnifying mirror on the other side, is preferably mounted between the sections to separate pans (24) of colored powders, creams and the like releasably secured in one section from that in the other section.

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MAGNETIC COSMETIC CASEField of the Invention

This invention relates to compacts and cosmetic cases and more particularly to a compact or cosmetic case comprising one or more magnets for releasably securing within the case one or more pans of a magnetically attracted material which contains colored powders, creams or the like.

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Background of the Invention

Cosmetic cases or compacts typically comprise a plastic casing which opens to expose a mirror and a select number of colored powders, creams or other cosmetic materials. Such colored materials are typically contained in metal pans which fit into individual preformed compartments within the casing. Additional compartments may be provided for containing an applicator such as a brush or a swab. Other compartments may be provided for containing such things as colored pencils and the like or liquid cosmetic materials such as polishes or removers.

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Users of such colored powders and creams tend to have a number of favorite colors which are used regularly. Accordingly, manufacturers of such cosmetics tend to offer cosmetic cases containing a variety of colored

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1 materials. However, unless the user likes all of the
colors of a particular cosmetic case, only a portion of
those colored materials will actually be used. This
means that not only are the unused colored materials
5 wasted, but that the cosmetic case is generally much
larger than actually required.

Frequently, the favorite colors of a user include
colors sold by more than one manufacturer. However, a
manufacturer's cosmetic case is designed to receive pans
10 of colored powders, creams and the like which are sold
by that manufacturer. Accordingly, pans of cosmetic
material from one manufacturer's cosmetic case cannot be
interchanged with pans from another manufacturer's cos-
metic case.

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Summary of the Invention

Accordingly, this invention provides a cosmetic case
or compact in which magnetically attracted pans containing
cosmetic materials such as colored powders, creams and
20 the like from various manufacturers can be mounted. The
cosmetic case comprises an openable casing having a
hollow interior. At least one magnet, preferably in the
form of a plate, is mounted within the casing for releas-
ably securing at least one magnetically attracted pan
25 containing colored powder, cream or the like within the
casing.

In a preferred embodiment of the invention, the
cosmetic case comprises a casing having two sections,
e.g., an first section and a second section. At least
30 one magnet, preferably in the shape of a flat plate,
lines at least a portion of the inner surface of one
section for releasably securing one or more magnetically
attracted pans which contain colored powder, cream or the
like in that section. A mirror preferably lines at least

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1 a portion of the inner surface of the other section.
One or both sections may be subdivided into compart-
ments for containing applicators or other articles..
The cosmetic case may also comprise one or more trays
5 comprising one or more magnets for securing magnetically
attracted pans of colored powder, cream or the like on
the trays.

In another preferred embodiment of the invention,
at least one magnet, preferably in the form of a plate,
10 lines at least a portion of both sections of the casing
to allow magnetically attracted pans of colored powder,
creams and the like to be mounted in either section.

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1. Brief Description of the Drawings

These and other features and advantages of the present invention will be better understood by reference to the following detailed description when considered in conjunction with the accompanying drawings wherein:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a preferred cosmetic case constructed in accordance with the invention shown in an open arrangement;

FIG. 2 is a front cross-sectional view of the cosmetic case of FIG. 1 shown in the closed arrangement;

FIG. 3 is a front cross-sectional view of the cosmetic case of FIG. 2 showing an alternate method of attaching the mirror and magnet;

FIG. 4 is a front cross-sectional view of a second preferred cosmetic case constructed in accordance with the present invention;

FIG. 5 is a perspective view of a third preferred cosmetic case constructed in accordance with the present invention; and

FIG. 6 is a side cross-sectional view of a fourth preferred cosmetic case constructed in accordance with the present invention.

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1 Detailed Description

5 A preferred compact or cosmetic case 9 made in
accordance with the present invention is shown in FIGS.
1 and 2 and comprises a casing 10 having first and second
sections 11 and 12. The casing may be any size which is
sufficient to contain at least one magnetically attracted
pan containing a colored powder, cream or the like and
may be made of any suitable material including rigid mate-
10 rials such as metals and rigid plastics or soft, pliable
materials such as cloth, leather and flexible plastics.
In the embodiment shown, the first section 11 and second
section 12 are connected at their rear edges by hinges
13. Latch members 14 and 16 are provided for releasably
15 securing the first and second sections together when the
housing 10 is closed. Other means for connecting or
securing the first and second sections together, e.g.,
snaps, buttons, zippers, etc., may be used as desired.

20 The casing may have any suitable shape. In the
exemplary embodiment shown, the first and second sections
have a generally rectangular configuration. Other shapes
or configurations, e.g., square, circular, oval, etc. may
be used as desired. It is also to be understood that the
first and second sections need not have the same thickness.

25 The cosmetic case comprises a mirror 17 which is
mounted in the first section 11. The mirror may be mag-
nifying or non-magnifying as desired. Mounting may be by
any conventional means such as bonding the mirror to the
interior surface of the first section 11 by adhesives and
the like. Alternatively, the mirror may be mounted in
30 the first section 11 and secured by mechanical means,
e.g., lip 18 as shown in FIG. 3.

35 With reference again to FIGS. 1 and 2, the second
section 12 is subdivided into two compartments, a first
compartment 21 for containing pans of colored powders,

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1 creams and the like, and a second compartment 22 for
containing other articles, e.g., applicators, brushes or
the like.

5 A magnet 20 is fixedly attached to the interior
surface of the first compartment 21. In the exemplary
embodiment shown, the magnet 20 is in the form of a
generally rectangular plate and covers substantially the
entire interior surface of the first compartment 21. It
is apparent that magnets of other shapes and sizes as
10 well as multiple magnets may be used as desired. Attach-
ment of the magnet 20 to the surface of the first compart-
ment 21 may be by any suitable means such as glues, adhe-
sives, or the like. Alternatively, the magnet may be
incorporated in the wall of the casing or mounted and
15 held in place by mechanical means such as by lip 23 as
shown in FIG. 3.

 Pans 24 containing a cosmetic material 26 such as
colored powders, creams or the like are mounted in the
first compartment 21 of the second section 12. The pans
20 24 comprise a magnetically attracted material, i.e., a
material such as iron which is capable of being attracted
by a magnet. The magnetically attracted pans are thus
held in place with the casing 10 by magnetic attraction
to magnet 20. Since it is not required that the pans fit
25 into individual compartments, the pans 24 may be of any
shape and size which fit into the first compartment 21.
Accordingly, pans 24 of varying shapes and sizes from
different cosmetic manufacturers may be incorporated into
a single cosmetic case. Further, pans 24 may be removed
30 for replacement or simply to facilitate access to the
cosmetic material within the pan by simply lifting the
pan off of magnet 20 and are easily mounted back in the
casing by simply placing the pan onto magnet 20.

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1 It is apparent that, if desired, other articles,
such as applicators, enclosed containers of liquid cos-
metic materials or any other articles may comprise mag-
netically attracted material and thus may be secured
5 within the casing by magnet 20. In such an embodiment,
there may or may not be any need for additional compart-
ments, such as second compartment 22.

 Another preferred embodiment of the invention is
shown in FIG. 4. In this embodiment, a magnet 30, gener-
10 ally in the form of a rectangular plate, is mounted in
the first section 11 as well as in the second section 12.
Magnetically attracted pans 24 containing cosmetic mate-
rial can thus be mounted within the casing in either the
first section or second section. In the embodiment shown,
15 magnet 30 extends over substantially all of the inner
surface of the first section 11 as shown.

 Mirror 31 comprising a plurality of small plugs 32
of a magnetically attracted material attached to its back
surface is mounted in the first section by attraction
20 between the plugs 32 and magnet 30. In such an embodi-
ment, the mirror 31, like the pans 24, can be easily
removed and reinserted into the casing.

 It is apparent that, if desired, mirror 31 may be
fixedly mounted in the first section 11. In such an
25 embodiment, magnet 30 would preferably extend only over
some or all of the portion of the first section 11 not
covered by mirror 31.

 A third preferred embodiment of the invention is
shown in FIG. 5. In this embodiment, the compact or
30 cosmetic case comprises a tray 40 which lifts out of the
second section 12 as the cosmetic case is opened. A
magnet 41, in the form of a rectangular plate is mounted
on the tray 40 to secure magnetically attracted pans 24

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1 of cosmetic material thereto. The space 44 beneath the
tray 40 can be used to store other articles such as
liquid polishes and removers, colored pencils, etc.
Alternatively, a second magnet may be mounted on the
5 interior surface of the second section so that additional
magnetically attracted pans of cosmetic material or any
other article comprising a magnetically attracted material
may be secured in the cosmetic case.

A fourth preferred embodiment is shown in FIG. 6.
10 In this embodiment, magnets 49 and 50, in the form of
plates, are mounted on the inside surfaces of both the
first and second sections 51 and 52 of casing 48, which,
in this case, is made of a flexible material. Magneti-
cally attracted pans 53 of colored powder, creams, etc.,
15 are releasably secured to each magnet 49 and 50. A
partition 54 comprising a non-magnifying mirror 55 on
one side and a magnifying mirror 56 on the other side
divides the interior of the casing into two chambers 57
and 58 thereby separating the pans 53 secured to magnet
20 49 from the pans 53 secured to magnet 50. This arrange-
ment is particularly preferred because it allows pans 53
which contain colored powders to be secured in one cham-
ber, e.g., chamber 57, and pans 53 which contain colored
creams mounted in chamber 58. This effectively prevents
25 powders of one color from inadvertently mixing with
creams of another color. Casing 48 is shown with an
exterior pouch 59 for containing applicators or other
small articles.

It is apparent that there are numerous variations
30 and changes in the above structures which can be made
without departing from the scope of the invention. In
addition to those previously described, it is apparent

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1 that the number and shape of compartments, if any, within
the cosmetic case is a matter of choice. The cosmetic
cases may have no mirrors or, if desired, may have a
mirror on the exterior of the cosmetic case. The casing
5 may have more than two sections, if desired. Likewise,
the sections need not be of the same size or shape. For
example, one section may simply be a panel whose edges
slidably engage grooves in the other section.

10 Accordingly, the foregoing description should not
be read as pertaining only to the precise structures
described, but rather should be read consistent with and
as support for the following claims which are to have
their fullest fair scope.

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1 WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A cosmetic case comprising:
 an openable casing having a hollow interior;

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 a magnet mounted in said casing for releasably
securing at least one magnetically attracted pan contain-
ing a cosmetic material within the interior of said
casing.

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2. A cosmetic case as claimed in claim 1 further
comprising at least one magnetically attracted pan con-
taining a cosmetic material.

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3. A cosmetic case as claimed in claim 1 wherein
the magnet is in the form of a generally flat plate.

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4. A cosmetic case as claimed in claim 1 wherein
the casing comprises two hingedly connected sections and
wherein the magnet is attached to the interior surface of
one section.

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5. A cosmetic case as claimed in claim 4 further
comprising a second magnet attached to the interior
surface of the other section.

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6. A cosmetic case as claimed in claim 5 further
comprising a partition between the two sections.

7. A cosmetic case as claimed in claim 6 wherein
the partition comprises a mirror.

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1 8. A cosmetic case comprising:
 an openable casing having at least two sections
 and a hollow interior; and
 at least one magnet mounted in said casing for
5 releasably securing at least one magnetically attracted
 pan containing a cosmetic material within the interior of
 said casing.

10 9. A cosmetic case as claimed in claim 8 further
 comprising at least one magnetically attracted pan con-
 taining a cosmetic material.

15 10. A cosmetic case as claimed in claim 8 wherein
 a magnet is attached to the interior surface of at least
 one section.

20 11. A cosmetic case as claimed in claim 8 further
 comprising at least one tray mountable in said casing
 and wherein the tray comprises at least one magnet for
 releasably securing at least one magnetically attracted
 pan containing a cosmetic material.

25 12. A cosmetic case comprising:
 a generally rigid casing having a hollow interior
 and comprising a first section hingedly connected to a
 second section;
 at least one magnet mounted in each section for
 releasably securing at least one magnetically attracted
 pan containing a cosmetic material in each section; and
30 a partition mounted in said casing between the
 first and second sections.

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1 13. A cosmetic case as claimed in claim 12 further
comprising at least one magnetically attracted pan
containing a cosmetic material releasably secured to a
magnet mounted in each section.

5 14. A cosmetic case as claimed in claim 12 wherein
the partition comprises a mirror.

10 15. A cosmetic case as claimed in claim 14 wherein
the partition comprises a non-magnifying mirror on one
side and a magnifying mirror on the other side.

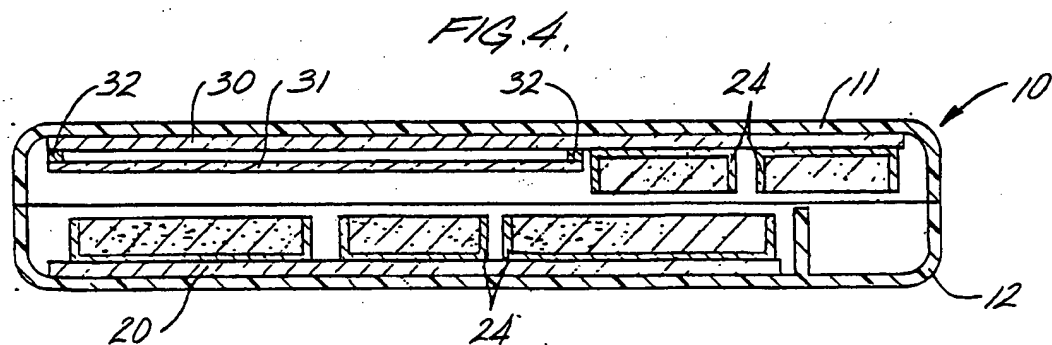
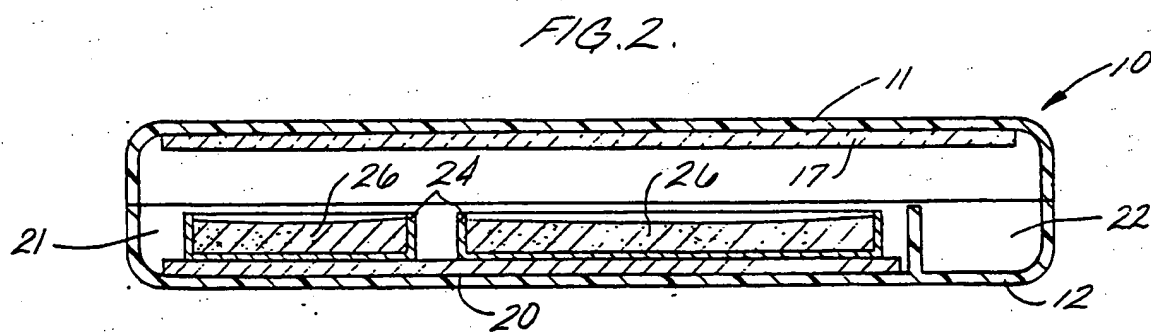
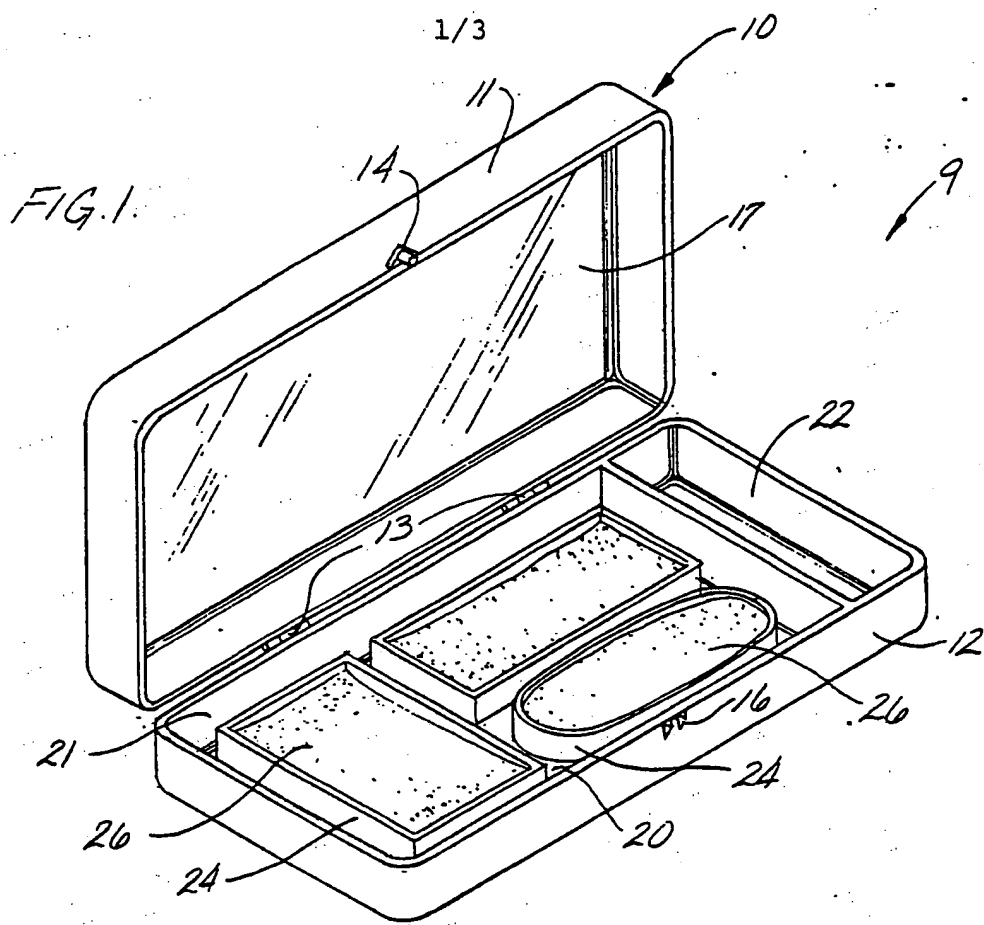
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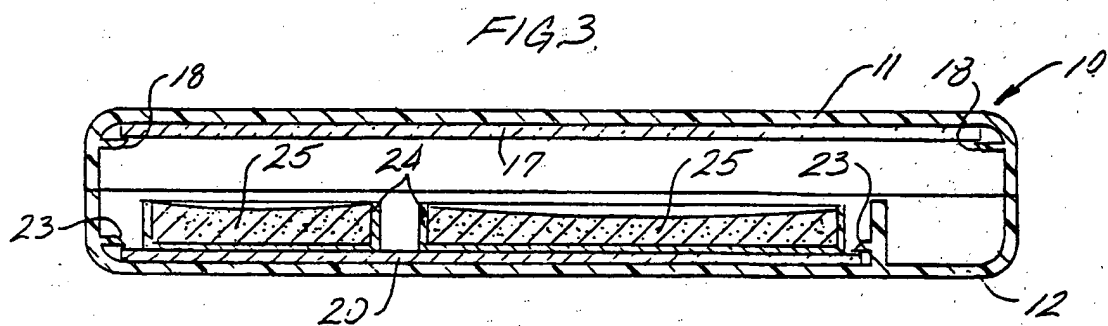
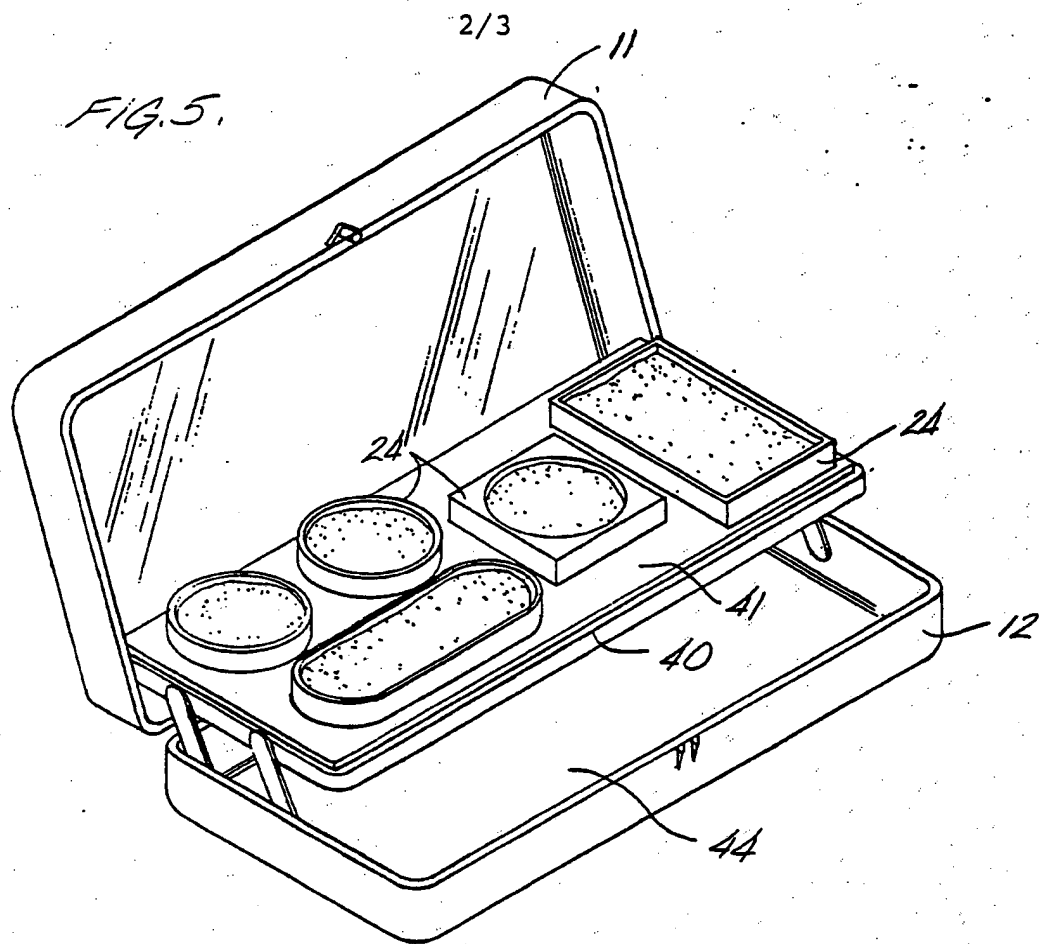
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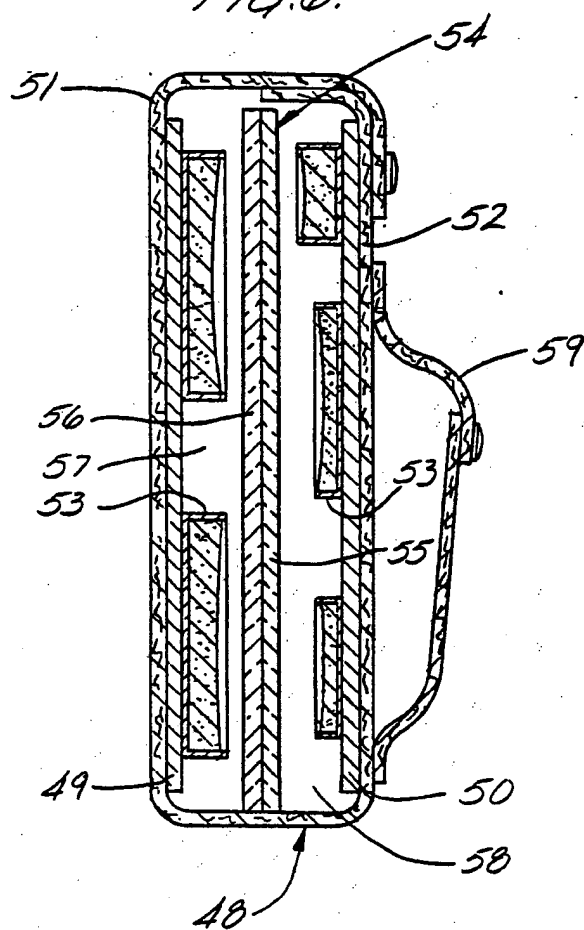
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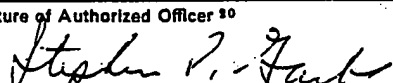
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FIG. 6.



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No PCT/US85/01273

I. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER (If several classification symbols apply, indicate all) ³		
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both National Classification and IPC		
Int. Cl4: B65D 85/62		
U.S. Cl.: 206/235		
II. FIELDS SEARCHED		
Minimum Documentation Searched ⁴		
Classification System	Classification Symbols	
U.S.	132/79F, 79R, 79G; 206/1.7, 1.8, 235, 350, 504, 514, 581 818, 823; 220/405; 248/206.5; 350/603	
Documentation Searched other than Minimum Documentation to the Extent that such Documents are Included in the Fields Searched ⁵		
III. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT ¹⁴		
Category [*]	Citation of Document, ¹⁶ with Indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages ¹⁷	Relevant to Claim No. ¹⁸
Y	DE, B, 2,747,836, Published 03 May 1979 (Knopp)	1-4, 8-10
Y	US, A, 1,872,864, Published 23 August 1932 (Yarcho)	1-7
Y	FR, A5, 995,835, Published 10 December 1951 (Lambert)	12-14
Y	US, A, 2,628,625, Published 17 February 1953 (Pike)	15
Y	US, A, 778,981, Published 03 January 1905 (Littauer)	15
Y	US, A, 2,454,527, Published 23 November 1948 (Taschereau)	8, 9
A	US, A, 2,026,010, Published 31 December 1935 (Ritz-Woller)	-
(see second sheet)		
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>[*] Special categories of cited documents: ¹⁵</p> <p>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</p> <p>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</p> <p>"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step</p> <p>"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.</p> <p>"Δ" document member of the same patent family</p> </div> </div>		
IV. CERTIFICATION		
Date of the Actual Completion of the International Search ²	Date of Mailing of this International Search Report ³	
08 August 1985	21 AUG 1985	
International Searching Authority ¹	Signature of Authorized Officer ²⁰	
ISA/US		

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM THE SECOND SHEET

A	US, A, 2,099,122, Published 16 November 1937 (Kreisler)	-
A	US, A, 2,324,049, Published 13 July 1943 (Winslow)	-
A	US, A, 2,988,410, Published 13 June 1961 (Weisz)	-
A	US, A, 3,258,017, Published 28 June 1966 (Albert)	-

V. ☐ OBSERVATIONS WHERE CERTAIN CLAIMS WERE FOUND UNSEARCHABLE ¹⁰

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2) (a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claim numbers because they relate to subject matter ¹² not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. ☐ Claim numbers because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out ¹³, specifically:

VI. ☐ OBSERVATIONS WHERE UNITY OF INVENTION IS LACKING ¹¹

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims of the international application.

2. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims of the international application for which fees were paid, specifically claims:

3. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claim numbers:

4. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the International Searching Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.

Remark on Protest

☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by applicant's protest.

☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.